

## EVENING BULLETIN.

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J. E. FARRINGTON, Editor. AMIEL LORAN, City Editor.

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While the outcome of the championship races was not satisfactory to everyone, the generous spirit with which the victors accepted the victory and the good nature with which the defeated took their defeat shows that the spirit of true sportsmanship still rules.

## AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

The Advertiser explains the Hawaiian Government's position in the release of the Galician laborers as follows:

"There is a misunderstanding about the relations of the government to the Galicians, who were lately imprisoned.

"Their imprisonment was not under a criminal, but a penal law, over which the government has no control. If these Galicians had been convicted of a criminal offense, the Executive held the power to pardon them, or modify the sentence. As the offense was only penal, the Executive had no more power in the case than it had to set a man free who had violated an injunction order of the court or had refused to obey the writ of subpoena."

As this is published in the official organ of the Hawaiian Government, it may be taken as a correct explanation of the government's position.

## THE EXECUTIVE'S SPECIAL AGENT.

The official organ has now taken up the issue of the Hawaiian Government's special representative to Washington. The first necessity is ascertained by the organ is that Hawaii should have a "voice" in Washington.

It happens that President McKinley appointed two lawyers as the Hawaiian members of the Commission to organize the organic law of Hawaii's future government. These two lawyers are President Dole and Judge Frear, and are members of the Hawaiian Commission have their expenses paid by the United States Government.

Why is it that the official organ passes by these two lawyers in its special agent championship? Does the organ mean to infer that lawyers Dole and Frear are not "familiar with the laws of Hawaii, with the land titles, with the decisions of the courts" that they are not "capable men from these islands, who can clearly and promptly instruct them (members of Congress)?" Does the official organ lack confidence in the ability of the lawyers selected by President McKinley from the midst of Hawaii's official circle?

It is recognized that these lawyers, Dole and Frear, will not presume to visit Washington unless they are asked to do so by the President of the Commission. Was the experience at the last session of Congress, when these lawyers were not asked to come to Washington, such that the official circle fears that the Washington people will forget to ask the Hawaiian Commissioners to come to Washington? Is this fear that an invitation will not be received so well grounded the official circle is bound to send someone anyway?

The arguments of the official organ in support of the Hawaiian officials' special representative in Washington are as weak and fallacious as the constitutional arguments of the local supreme court.

If lawyers Dole and Frear want to go or are asked to go to Washington, let them go. They will stand for just what they are, officials of the Hawaiian government. For the Hawaiian Executive however to select an official lawyer—expenses to be paid from Hawaii's public funds, and to be commis-

sioned "in the name of the people"—is a mistake, if Hawaii's best interests are to be considered, and a misrepresentation in that such special agent will not be representative of the people. This special representative appointed by the Hawaiian Government will do the interests of the Hawaiian people more harm than good. He will stand before Congress as the special lobbyist of the officials of Hawaii, not the representative of the people.

Take for instance Mr. Smith whose name has been mentioned in this connection. Mr. Smith, in answer to questions sent out by the Call, says that to take part in government is a privilege not a right; he approves a property qualification for voters. These are Mr. Smith's personal views and he has a right to them, but he knows, the Hawaiian Executive knows that should Mr. Smith espouse the cause of a restricted property qualification franchise as he will have to do as the special agent, he will not represent "the people of Hawaii." No man espousing the property qualification franchise could go before the people of Hawaii or the voters of the Republic of Hawaii and obtain a majority endorsement.

The official organ says, "But the need of an agent representing the (Hawaiian) government, or rather the views of the people, so far as they can be ascertained, is pressing. If it is possible to send a representative, favorably known to Congress and the (Hawaiian) Executive, it should be done."

The italics are not the official organ's, though they might as well be, as in these few words it shows up the whole scheme of the Executive. The first thought brought out is that the need of an agent representing the Hawaiian government is pressing. Indeed it is. Everybody is willing to admit this, but the tax payers are not ready to pay the expenses of this personal representative. Having noted the first pressing necessity from the personal Executive standpoint, the organ tells, "or rather the views of the people, so far as they can be ascertained." The views of the people are thus placed as a secondary consideration and the official organ is to be congratulated in being good enough to be honest about it. Furthermore this official mouthpiece weakens the cause of this special representative by admitting that the views of the people relative to Hawaii's laws cannot be ascertained.

It is also claimed that this special agent shall be favorably known to the Executive. In other words, any man opposed to the Hawaiian Executive, though he be popular with the people, is not to be thought of for this position.

If further evidence is needed that this special agent is to be the personal representative of the personnel of Hawaii's Executive, note that the official organ after admitting that our active citizens do not agree as to the measures which are for the best interests of the territory, says "and it is possible that some effort may be made to change the provisions of the bill so as to meet certain views which are held here."

To put the organ's utterances in a nutshell, this special agent of the Hawaiian Government is to be stationed in Washington in order to head off any expression from the Hawaiian people which may be contrary to the course the Hawaiian Executive wishes to forward.

If the members of the Hawaiian Executive desire a special agent in Washington to forestall legislation that is in keeping with "certain views which are held here," they have a right to send that special agent, but they have no right to pay his expenses from public monies or commission the special agent "in the name of the people."

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